The Standards of Quality (SOQ)

Standard 5. Quality of Classroom Instruction

and Educational Leadership

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Standard 5. Quality of Classroom Instruction and Educational Leadership

- Requires members of the Board of Education, as part of their service on the Board, to participate in highquality professional development programs on:
 - personnel;
 - curriculum; and
 - current issues in education.

- Sets requirements for teacher, principal, and superintendent evaluations, which include:
 - consistency with the Guidelines for Uniform Performance Standards and Evaluation Criteria for Teachers, Principals, and Superintendents;
 - student academic progress as a significant component of the evaluation;
 - an overall summative rating;
 - identification of areas of individual strength and weakness; and
 - recommendations for appropriate professional activities.
- Teacher evaluations must include regular observation and evidence that instruction is aligned with the school's curriculum.

Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13:5 (B)



- Requires the Board of Education to provide guidance on highquality professional development for:
 - teachers, principals, supervisors, division superintendents, and other school staff;
 - principals, supervisors, and division superintendents in the evaluation of teacher and principal performance based their skills and knowledge and student academic progress;
 - school board members on personnel, curriculum and current issues in education; and
 - programs in Braille for teachers of the blind and visually impaired.
- Requires the Board to also provide technical assistance on high-quality professional development to local school boards in alignment with the comprehensive plan for educational technology.

Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13:5 (C)

- Requires local school board members to participate annually in high-quality professional development activities on governance, including:
 - personnel policies and practices;
 - the evaluation of personnel, curriculum, and instruction;
 - use of data in planning and decision making; and
 - current issues in education.

Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13:5 (D)

- Requires division superintendents to participate annually in high-quality professional development activities, including:
 - the Standards of Quality;
 - the Board of Education regulations; and
 - the Guidelines for Uniform Performance Standards and Evaluation Criteria for Teachers, Principals, and Superintendents.

Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13:5 (D)

- Requires local school boards to provide high-quality professional development programs that address:
 - the use of performance standards and evaluation criteria based on student academic progress and skills;
 - the skills needed to work with gifted students, students with disabilities, and students with limited English proficiency;
 - educational technology training; and
 - instructional leadership and management training for principals and supervisors.

Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13:5 (E)

- Requires local school boards to annually provide teachers and principals with high-quality professional development programs in:
 - instructional content;
 - the preparation of tests and other assessment measures;
 - methods for assessing the progress of individual students;
 - instruction and remediation techniques;
 - interpreting test data for instructional purposes;
 - technology applications to implement the SOLs; and
 - effective classroom management.

Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13:5 (E)

- Requires school divisions' comprehensive plans to address high-quality professional development programs in schools.
- Requires all instructional personnel to participate each year in the school boards' professional development programs.
- Requires school boards to annually review their professional development programs.

Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13:5 (F) and (G)

- Requires the Board of Education to:
 - adopt a statewide comprehensive, unified, long-range plan based on data collection, analysis, and evaluation, developed with statewide participation;
 - review the plan biennially and adopt any necessary revisions; and
 - post the plan on the Department of Education's Web site and make a hard copy available for public inspection and copying.

Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13:6(A)

- Requires the Board's comprehensive plan to include:
 - the objectives of public education in Virginia, including strategies for improving and maintaining student achievement, particularly for educationally at-risk students;
 - an assessment of the extent to which these objectives are being achieved;
 - a forecast of enrollment changes; and
 - an assessment of the needs of public education in the Commonwealth.
- Requires the Board to also develop and maintain a detailed comprehensive, long-range plan to integrate educational technology into the SOL and the curricula of public schools.

Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13:6(A)



- Requires the Board to analyze, in its annual report, the extent to which the objectives of the comprehensive plan have been met.
- Requires the Board to make available to local school boards information about where current Virginia school laws, Board regulations and revisions, and copies of relevant Opinions of the Attorney General of Virginia may be located online.

Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13:6(A) and (D)

- Requires each local school board to adopt a divisionwide comprehensive, unified, long-range plan which is:
 - based on data collection, an analysis of the data, and how the data will be utilized to improve classroom instruction and student achievement;
 - developed with staff, community, and parental involvement; and
 - reviewed biennially.

Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13:6(B)

- Requires the divisionwide comprehensive plan to include certain components, such as:
 - the objectives of the school division, including strategies for improving and maintaining student achievement, particularly for educationally at-risk students;
 - an assessment of the extent to which these objectives are being achieved;
 - a forecast of enrollment changes, and plan for managing such changes;
 - consideration for regional programs/services with neighboring school divisions;

Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13:6(B)

- Requires the divisionwide comprehensive plan to include certain components, such as (continued):
 - a technology plan designed to integrate educational technology;
 - an assessment of the needs of the school division;
 - any corrective action plan required pursuant to Standard Three; and
 - a plan for parent and family involvement.

Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13:6(B)

 Requires each public school to also prepare a comprehensive plan, which the relevant school board shall consider in the development of its divisionwide plan.

Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13:6(C)

- Requires each school board to maintain and follow an up-to date policy manual, which has been reviewed at least every five years and revised as necessary.
- Prescribes the components of the policy manual and requires that it be developed giving the consideration to the views of teachers, parents, and other concerned citizens.

Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13:7(A), (B), and (C)

- The local school board's policy must address the following:
 - complaints of sexual abuse of a student by a teacher or other school board employee.
 - a system of two-way communication between employees and the local school board;
 - the selection/evaluation of instructional materials, with procedures for handling challenged controversial materials;
 - the standards of student conduct and attendance and enforcement procedures;
 - school-community communications and community involvement;

Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13:7(A) and (C)

- The local school board's policy must address the following (continued):
 - guidelines to encourage parents to provide instructional assistance to their children at home;
 - information about procedures for addressing concerns with the school division and recourse available;
 - a cooperatively developed procedure for personnel evaluation; and
 - grievances/dismissals of teachers.

Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13:7(A) and (C)

- Requires a current copy of all school division policies and regulations, including the Student Conduct Policy, to be:
 - available on the division's Web site;
 - available in print form;
 - announced as available to parents of students at the time of enrollment.

Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13:7(D) and (E)

Standard 10. Standards of Learning Innovation Committee

Standard 10: SOL Innovation Committee

- Establishes the Standards of Learning Innovation
 Committee, under the direction of the Secretary of Education, to make recommendations to the Board on:
 - Standards of Learning assessments;
 - authentic individual growth measures;
 - alignment between Standards of Learning, the assessments, and the School Performance Report Card; and
 - ideas about innovative teaching in the classroom.

Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13:10

Standard 10: SOL Innovation Committee

- HB 894 amends Standard 10 as follows:
 - Requires the Committee to obtain an affirmative vote by a majority of the legislative members in attendance and a majority of nonlegislative members in attendance in order to adopt any recommendations.
 - Eliminates the ability of the Committee to submit recommendations directly to the General Assembly. Under HB 894, recommendations are submitted to the Board; the Board then submits the recommendations the General Assembly, as appropriate.

Standard 10: SOL Innovation Committee

- HB 894 amends Standard 10 (continued):
 - Changes the membership of the Committee by:
 - increasing the number of Senators from two to three; and
 - adding representation of four-year public institution of higher education, two-year public institution of higher education, and the business community.
 - Staggers the terms of members.